

## Message Text

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11

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-11 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 CAB-09 COME-00 DOTE-00 FAA-00 OMB-01 SAJ-01

SAM-01 NIC-01 EUR-25 DRC-01 /139 W

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P R 220955Z APR 74

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1435

INFO USLO PEKING PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI PRIORITY

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

CONFIDENTIAL TOKYO 5299

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

EO 11762: GDS

TAGS: PFOR JA CH TW

SUBJ: JAPAN-CHINA CIVAIR AGREEMENT

REF: TOKYO 5233

SUMMARY: GOJ/LDP LEADERS HELD EMERGENCY MEETING APRIL 21 (REF-TEL) TO DISCUSS NEXT STEP TO DEAL WITH CHINA CIVAIR ISSUE. GOJ PREPARATIONS REMAIN ON TRACK FOR EARLIEST SUBMISSION OF JAPAN/PRC CIVAIR AGREEMENT TO DIET FOR RATIFICATION AS EARLY AS THIS WEEK. GOJ SPOKESMEN CONTINUE TO VOICE HOPE THAT GROC SEVERANCE OF JAPAN-TAIPEI AIR LINK MAY BE ONLY TEMPORARY IN NATURE, AND THAT ROUTE MAY BE RESTORED AFTER SUITABLE COOLING-OFF PERIOD. CONTINUING PRESS REPORTS THAT GROC INTENDS TO MAINTAIN OTHER IMPORTANT ECONOMIC TIES WITH JAPAN HAVE GIVEN RISE TO CAUTIOUS WAIT-AND-SEE ATTITUDE HERE. END SUMMARY.

1. IN EMERGENCY MEETING AT LDP HEADQUARTERS AFTERNOON

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APRIL 21, FONMIN OHIRA REPEATED ASSURANCE TO GOJ/LDP LEADERS

THAT TERMINATION OF AIR LINK WOULD NOT AFFECT TRADE BETWEEN JAPAN AND TAIWAN, AND THAT JAPANESE INTERESTS AND CITIZENS IN TAIWAN WOULD NOT RPT NOT BE DISTURBED. OHIRA TOOK LINE THAT GOJ WOULD ADOPT WAIT-AND-SEE ATTITUDE BECAUSE NOW NOT RPT NOT TOME FOR JAPAN TO TAKE SPECIFIC ACTION IN RESPONSE TO TERMINATION OF AIR LINK TO TAIWAN.

2. MEETING OF GOJ/LDP LEADERS SCHEDULED FOR AFTERNOON APRIL 22 EXPECTED TO PRODUCE PARTY APPROVAL TO SUBMIT JAPAN/PRC CIVAIR AGREEMENT TO DIET FOR RATIFICATION THIS WEEK.

. FINMIN TAKEO FUKUDA PRUDENTLY ADOPTED NEUTRAL POSITION ON ISSUE IN TALK WITH PRESS IN OKAYAMA APRIL 21. FUKUDA SAID THAT CIVAIR ISSUE SHOULD NOT BE ALLOWED TO BECOME TOOL IN POWER-STRUGGLE AMONG LDP FACTIONS. AT ME TIME HE CALLED ON LDP TO EXERT ALL EFFORTS TO RESTORE SEVERED AIR LINK WITH TAIWAN.

4. ELSEWHERE, SEIRANKAI LEADER ICHIRO NAKAGAWA TOLD PRESS IN OBIHIRO APRIL 21 THAT NRIMIN TANAKA AND FONMIN OHIRA SHOULD BOTH RESIGN TO TAKE RESPONSIBILITY FOR DISRUPTING CIVAIR LINK BETWEEN JAPAN AND TAIWAN. DECLARING THAT HE COULD NO LONGER WORK FOR TANAKA GOVERNMENT, NAKAGAWA SAID THAT HE WISHED TO RESIGN AS VICE-MIN OF FINANCE. HE ADDED THAT FOUR OTHER SEIRANKAI VICE-MINS ALSO WISHED TO RESIGN.

5. MEDIA HAVE WELCOMED JAPAN-PRC CIVAIR AGREEMENT AS CONSTRUCTIVE AND NECESSARY STEP IN IMPROVING RELATIONS WITH CHINA. MEDIA HAVE ALSO CAREFULLY REPORTED ASSURANCES FROM TAIWAN THAT GROC RETALIATORY STEPS WOULD BE LIMITED TO AIR LINK.

6. COMMENT: EARLY RATIFICATION OF JAPAN-PRC CIVAIR AGREEMENT SEEMS TO BE ON TRACK AND MOVING AHEAD. MEANTIME, GOJ OBLIGED BY LDP DECISION TO CONTINUE EFFORTS TO RESTORE TAIWAN AIR ROUTE. OPPOSITION EXPECTED FROM PRO-TAIWAN HAWKS WITHIN LDP HAS YET TO MAKE ITSELF FULLY FELT. MAYBE IT WILL NOT, FOR DESPITE BLUSTERING STATEMENT BY NAKAGAWA, EMBASSY CONTACTS HAVE HINTED AT GROWING DISIRRAY IN SEIRANKAI ON QUESTION OF HOW TO HANDLE THIS ISSUE NOW THAT CRUNCH HAS ARRIVED. MOREOVER, FINMIN FUKUDA SEEMS TO HAVE SUBTLY EDGED AWAY FROM ALLOWING SELF TO BECOME FOCUS OF INTERNAL LDP MOVE

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AGAINST AIR AGREEMENT. END COMMENT.  
SHOESMITH

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** BoyleJA  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
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**TAGS:** PFOR, JA, CH, TW  
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